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RESUME OF ANNUAL MEETING of the ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS OF THE U.S.

EPISCOPAL STATEMENT on "ESSENTIALS OF A GOOD PEACE"

A NATIONAL MONTHLY PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

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FACTS ABOUT THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

"Over a manifold activity of the laity, carried on in various localities according to the needs of the times, is placed the National Catholic Welfare Conference, an organization which supplies a ready and well-adapted instrument for your episcopal ministry."—Pope Pius XII.

The National Catholic Welfare Conference was organized in September, 1919.

The N. C. W. C. is a common agency acting under the authority of the bishops to promote the welfare of the Catholics of the country.

It has for its incorporated purposes "unifying, coordinating and organizing the Catholic people of the United States in works of education, social welfare, immigrant aid and other activities."

It comprises the following departments and bureaus:

EXECUTIVE—Bureaus maintained: *Immigration, National Center Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Information, Publications, Family Life, Business and Auditing, and* CATHOLIC ACTION, monthly publication, N. C. W. C.

YOUTH—Facilitates exchange of information regarding the philosophy, organization, and program-content of Catholic youth organizations; promotes the National Catholic Youth Council, the federating agency for all existing, approved Catholic youth groups; contacts and evaluates national governmental and non-governmental youth organizations and youth servicing organizations.

EDUCATION—Divisions: *Statistics and Information, Teacher Placement, Research Catholic Education, Library Service, and Inter-American Collaboration.*

PRESS—Serves the Catholic press in the United States and abroad with regular *news, features, editorial and pictorial services.*

SOCIAL ACTION—Covers the fields of *Industrial Relations, International Affairs, Civic Education, Social Welfare, and Rural Life.*

LEGAL—Serves as a clearing house of information on federal, state and local legislation.

LAY ORGANIZATIONS—Includes the National Council of Catholic Men and the National Council of Catholic Women, which maintain at N. C. W. C. headquarters permanent representations in the interests of the Catholic laity. These councils function through some 5,500 affiliated societies—national, state, diocesan, district, local and parish; also through units of the councils in many of the dioceses.

CATHOLIC ACTION STUDY—Devoted to research and reports as to pronouncements, methods, programs and achievements in the work of Catholic Action at home and abroad.

The N. C. C. M. maintains at its national headquarters a *Catholic Evidence Bureau,* sponsors a weekly nation-wide radio *Catholic Hour* over the network of the National Broadcasting Company, and conducts a Catholic Radio Bureau.

The N. C. C. W. maintains in Washington, D. C., the *National Catholic School of Social Service.*

The Conference is conducted by an administrative board composed of ten archbishops and bishops aided by seven assistant bishops.

Each department of the N. C. W. C. is administered by an episcopal chairman.

Through the general secretary, chief executive officer of the Conference, the reports of the departments and information on the general work of the headquarters' staff are sent regularly to the members of the administrative board.

The administrative bishops of the Conference report annually upon their work to the Holy See.

Annually at the general meeting of the bishops, detailed reports are submitted by the administrative bishops of the Conference and authorization secured for the work of the coming year.

No official action is taken by any N. C. W. C. department without authorization of its episcopal chairman.

No official action is taken in the name of the whole Conference without authorization and approval of the administrative board.

It is not the policy of the N. C. W. C. to create new organizations.

It helps, unifies, and leaves to their own fields those that already exist.

It aims to defend and to advance the welfare both of the Catholic Church and of our beloved Country.

It seeks to inform the life of America of right fundamental principles of religion and morality.

It is a central clearing house of information regarding activities of Catholic men and women.

All that are helped may play their part in promoting the good work and in maintaining the common agency, the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

CATHOLIC ACTION records monthly the work of the Conference and its affiliated organizations. It presents our common needs and opportunities. Its special articles are helpful to every Catholic organization and individual.

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CATHOLIC ACTION

"CATHOLIC ACTION consists not merely of the pursuits of personal Christian perfection, which is however before all others its first and greatest end, but it also consists of a true apostolate in which Catholics of every social class participate, coming thus to be united in thought and action around those centers of sound doctrine and multiple social activity, legitimately constituted and, as a result, aided and sustained by the authority of the bishops."
—Pope Pius XI.

Monthly Publication of the

NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

VOL. XXV, No. 12

DECEMBER, 1943

Essentials of A Good Peace

At their Annual General Meeting, held in Washington, D. C., last month, the Archbishops and Bishops of the United States directed the Administrative Board of the N. C. W. C. to issue the following statement treating fundamental principles involved in a good peace and warning against certain dangers that stand in the way of such a peace. The statement was signed by the members of the Board.

IN THE SPIRIT of a free nation, whose rights and security have been wantonly attacked, our country is putting into its war effort the whole weight of our resources, our ingenuity and our patriotism. We must be as determined to reap the full fruits of victory in a just peace as we are to win the war. We know that the sword cannot make peace. It can remove obstacles to peace, and it can impose its terms. But peace must be made first of all in the minds and wills of the victors. Unless we have the vision of a good peace and the will to demand it, victory can be an empty, even a tragic thing.

It is with these thoughts in mind that we deem it timely again to focus attention on the first essentials of a good peace. The responsibility for the post-war social reconstruction will fall on the victors. Many serious men have misgivings that there may be tragic compromises and a fateful repudiation of sound principles. These men are not pessimists or obstructionists, but they know the forces at play in the world about us. The Declarations of the Moscow Conference do, indeed, open the way to necessary international cooperation for peace as well as for war. In this they represent a definite step in the right direction. They do not however dispel the fear that compromises on the ideals of the Atlantic Charter are in prospect. Some things these documents imply by statement and more significantly still by omission leave an uneasiness in minds intent on peace with justice to all.

Not to enter the domain of statesmanship, but speaking as pastors of souls and teachers of religion, we wish to emphasize some fundamental social truths, deriving from religion, and to plead for their general recognition. It is heartening to note the wide agreement on the moral postulates of a just peace amongst religious leaders, otherwise divided by the deep cleavage of fundamental doctrinal differences. This significant and hopeful agreement has recently been evidenced in three parallel statements on World Peace issued by American religious groups. This pattern for peace fashioned on the moral law has attracted nation-wide attention and will, we hope, be carefully studied by all men of good will. It is our purpose here to go deeper into our Catholic heritage of truth in faith and reason and to indicate the application of primary religious truth to the problems of peace and the planning of a right social order.

Without doubt the root of the maladies which

afflict modern society and have brought on the catastrophe of world war is the social forgetfulness and even the rejection of the Sovereignty of God and of the moral law. There is written in human reason the law of good and evil, which calls to God for its authority and its sanctions. When this moral law is cast aside in social life, every principle, every right, every virtue rests on the shifting sands of mere human conventions. Human dignity, human solidarity become, then, not endowments from the Creator but mere fictions of man-made systems. In the quest for some principle for social stability, the authority of the State is exaggerated and its function of protecting and defending the rights of the citizens in the pursuits of the common good cedes to a tyrannical violation and invasion of these rights. In the name of realism the rights of the weak and the helpless are sacrificed. A first principle for a sane reconstruction of society is the social recognition of God's Sovereignty and of the moral law.

What reason tells us about God and His moral law is complemented and supplemented, is made definite and achievable in the Gospel of Christ. It is significant that when the Western peoples socially ostracized the Saviour and put their faith in secularism, they lost a clear vision of the moral law. They found no effective inspiration to civic virtue in Materialism and Naturalism, which despite signal advances in science, invention and administrative techniques, closed the avenues of genuine social progress. We shall go back to God and the moral law when we re-establish Christ in our social life.

The recognition of the Sovereignty of God and of the moral law, as treasured in the Christian tradition, is basic to the right ordering of international relations. In creation God gave to the human race its essential unity and bound all men together in a brotherhood as comprehensive as humanity itself. In the plan of Divine Providence the human family was divided into nations and races, but this division in no way impaired the essential unity of mankind. When sin broke man's right relations with God and brought disunion between man and man, nation and nation, Our Blessed Saviour restored, perfected and ennobled human brotherhood. The ideal of human brotherhood must inspire international relations. Only when this ideal is accepted by men and nations will the exploitation of the weak cease and jungle exaltation of might be outlawed.

This does not mean that national rights and national sovereignties, rightly interpreted, must be surrendered to a world government. It does mean that every nation and every people must recognize and satisfy its obligations in the Family of Nations. The discharge of these duties is entirely compatible with national differences which give a happy variety of cultural treasures in human unity. Indeed these differences must be respected and defended, and every effort must be made to assist peoples now in tutelage to a full juridic status among the nations of the world.

In the circumstances of our times it is imperative that the nations in satisfaction of their responsibilities unite in setting up international institutions for the preservation of world peace and mutual assistance. Such institutions, rightly conceived, are in full harmony with the Divine Plan of human solidarity and should be helpful to rightly interpreted sovereignty and independence.

The social recognition of the Sovereignty of God and of the moral law must be a first norm for the right ordering of the internal life of nations. Circumstances of history, differences of culture, and economic inequalities create differences of political forms. But all nations, if they are to conform to the moral law, must embody in their political structures the guaranty of the free exercise of native human rights, encouragement in the practice of virtue, an honest concern for the common good and a recognition of the inviolability of the human person. No nation has under God authority to invade family freedom, abrogate private ownership, or impede, to the detriment of the common good, economic enterprise, cooperative undertakings for mutual welfare and organized works of charity sponsored by groups of citizens. It is only when nations adhere to right principles in their domestic administration that they will cooperate for the common good of the Family of Nations.

Where God and the moral law are not given social recognition, human laws lose their stability and binding force. Ours is a tradition of government under law. In that tradition, law is not the expression of the will even of the majority, but of right reason, which reflects the law of Nature and of God. We ourselves have seen in the sorry experiences of other countries the tyranny and injustice which come from government by decree under a dictator or a party. When civil law conforms to the Moral Law and seeks its greatest sanction in that law, there is social stability, and the common good is promoted. It would be a tragic mistake to forsake our tradition of law even to achieve a greater efficiency in administration. It would be a greater tragedy to forsake our tradition of law for a currently popular philosophy which fails to base law on the eternal maxims of justice and disregards the inalienable rights of the citizen which derive from God.

It troubles us to see in the publication of crime statistics that there is a widespread disrespect for law, particularly in the youth of our country. No

graver indictment of our social behavior could be written. A greater effort to protect the stability and the sanctity of the home and to inculcate moral discipline will contribute much to the solution of this problem. A better supervision of recreational activities in our communities will likewise be helpful. But more than all, we must instill in the soul of youth deeper respect for authority and greater devotion to the common good. How can these things be done unless there is a frank social recognition of God and the moral law? Certainly no system of thought and action based on a materialistic concept of life offers any promise of better things.

In God's Plan the family is a social institution with its own rights and dignity. Its stability, unity and sanctity are as necessary to a right social order as the proper constitution of government itself. If in the family right order prevails, and the children are trained in virtue, there is a guaranty for social well-being. Where the State violates family rights and makes light of family stability and parental responsibility, no amount of welfare work carried on or promoted by public authority will adequately provide for social well-being. The political authority which earnestly seeks the common good of all citizens will not fail to lend itself to the establishment of a just family wage, in order that family income may be commensurate with the discharge of family duties. Nor will the prudent, wise, political authority, for any seeming temporary advantage, fail to recognize the function and dignity of woman in society and to warn her against the false economy of our times, which turns her mind and heart away from the home. . . .

We voice a grave warning against the propaganda of so-called planned parenthood, which violates the moral law, robs the family of its nobility and high social purpose, and weakens the physical and moral fibre of the nation. We plead for a return to the Christian concept of marriage, in which sex has such a high and noble function. We condemn the prevalent perverted teaching on sex which is degrading our youth, destroying the sanctity of the home, and prostituting the social function of the family to individual caprice. God is not mocked with impunity. Neo-pagan views on marriage which are being propagated with misguided zeal in our country can lead only to moral ruin and national decadence.

It would be inconsistent to promote a world reconstruction in which all nations, great and small, powerful and weak, would enjoy their rights in the Family of Nations, unless in our own national life we recognize an equality of opportunity for all our citizens and willingly extend to them the full benefits of our democratic institutions.

In the Providence of God there are among us millions of fellow-citizens of the Negro race. We owe to these fellow-citizens, who have contributed so largely to the development of our country, and for whose welfare history imposes on us a special obligation of justice, to see that they have in fact the rights which are given them in our Constitution. This means not only political equality, but also fair economic and educational opportunities, a just share in public welfare projects, good housing without exploitation, and a full chance for the social advancement of their race. When given their rights in fact as in law, they will prize with us our national heritage and not lend ear to agitators whose real objective is not to improve but to destroy our way of living.

In many of our great industrial centers acute racial tensions exist. It is the duty of every good citizen to do everything in his power to relieve them. . . . We hope that our priests and people will seek opportunity to promote better understanding of the many factors in this complex problem and strive for its solution in a genuine Catholic spirit.

And we plead as well for a generous interest in the welfare of our Spanish-speaking population. . . . They also have a right to expect the full enjoyment of our democratic institutions and that help in social life which is accorded to others. The sincerity of our Good Neighbor Policy with Latin America, so Christian in its spirit and so well calculated to foster right international relations, will be attested by our attitude towards our fellow-citizens of Latin-American origin or descent.

If the responsibility faced by the victors is great, the opportunity is historical. Now there comes the chance not in hatred or vengeance but in justice and charity to base a social reconstruction on truth and right. The men of our fighting forces, in whose gallantry and heroism we rejoice: their loved ones whose anxiety we share will be satisfied with nothing less. The peoples of the world, the simple peoples, the fathers of families, the toilers and laborers, the people who have the same interests and the same ambitions which we cherish are looking to us, to this great land of freedom. We must not disappoint them. It is our historic opportunity to do our full duty in the Family of Nations. The causes of war must be removed, the honest needs of peoples must be met, their rights recognized. This must be a good peace which our victory will achieve. But first let us make ourselves in very truth peacemakers. Let us recognize the problems in our own social life and courageously seek the solution of them. A first principle must be the recognition of the Sovereignty of God and of the moral law in our national life and in the right ordering of a new world born of the sacrifices and hardships of war.

BISHOPS OF U. S. IN ANNUAL MEETING

ON November 9, 10 and 11 in the Nation's Capital, a hundred Archbishops and Bishops from all over the United States and its possessions, held their annual meeting. One of the principal actions of the assembled Hierarchy was the approval of the statement of the essentials of a good peace to be issued by the members of the Administrative Board of the N. C. W. C. on November 13. The complete text of this penetrating analysis of the contemporary scene will be found elsewhere in this issue of CATHOLIC ACTION.

The meeting featured the reports of the various departments and bureaus of the N. C. W. C. A digest of these reports constitutes the entire issue of CATHOLIC ACTION this month with the exception of the Bishop's statement, the Forum article on "Principles for Peace" and the Month by Month with the N. C. W. C. section.

In sending the Holy Father their traditional message of greeting and devotion to the Holy See, the Archbishops and Bishops this year took cognizance of the extraordinary circumstances which the war, and particularly the events of recent months, have brought about, giving assurance to His Holiness that the Catholics of the United States—Bishops, priests and people—suffer with him in these difficult times and that the Father of Christendom is and will be in their prayers.

Also in a resolution adopted in general session the Bishops expressed profound sympathy with His Holiness in the present trying times and pledged to him their own prayers and those of their priests and people throughout the country.

On November 13 the new Administrative Board, elected by the Hierarchy the day previous, met at the Conference to organize itself for the supervision of the activities of the year ahead. Two new members grace the Administrative Board this year. The Most Rev. James H. Ryan, Bishop of Omaha, replaces Bishop Duffy of Buffalo who retired under a rule limiting consecutive years of service on the Board. Bishop Ryan is the new Episcopal Chairman of the Youth Department. The same limitation rule caused the retirement of the Bishop of Erie, the Most Rev. John Mark Gannon, who has been succeeded as Episcopal Chairman of the Press Department by the Archbishop of Saint Paul, the Most Rev. John Gregory Murray. Archbishop Murray returns to the Administrative Board, having completed a previous quinquennial service in 1942, while Bishop Ryan, formerly the Executive Secretary of the N. C. W. C. and Rector of the Catholic University of America, becomes a member of the Administrative Board for the first time. Other members of the Board, and their portfolios, are as follows:

The Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, Episcopal Chairman of the Executive Department and Chairman of the Board; the Most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, Vice Chairman and Treasurer; the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York, Secretary; the Most Rev. John T. McNicholas, O.P., Archbishop of Cincinnati, Episcopal Chairman of the Department of Education; the Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans, Episcopal Chairman of the Legal Department; the Most Rev. John J. Mitty, Archbishop of San Francisco, Episcopal Chairman of the Department of Catholic Action Study; the Most Rev. John F. Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne, Episcopal Chairman of the Department of Lay Organizations; and the Most Rev. Karl J. Alter, Bishop of Toledo, Episcopal Chairman of the Department of Social Action.

The Assistant Bishops on the Board, chosen by the various Episcopal Chairmen, are: The Most Rev. Thomas K. Gorman, Bishop of Reno, Press Department; the Most Rev. John B. Peterson, Bishop of Manchester, Department of Education; the Most Rev. Emmet M. Walsh, Bishop of Charleston, Department of Lay Organizations; the Most Rev. John F. O'Hara, C.S.C., Military Delegate, Department of Catholic Action Study; the Most Rev. Charles Hubert LeBlond, Bishop of St. Joseph, Department of Social Action; the Most Rev. Bryan J. McEntegart, Bishop of Ogdensburg, Legal Department; the Most Rev. Richard O. Gerow, Bishop of Natchez, Youth Department, and the Most Rev. William D. O'Brien, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, Assistant Treasurer.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Ready was again appointed General Secretary of the N. C. W. C. The Very Rev. Msgr. Howard J. Carroll was renamed Assistant General Secretary, and the Rev. James Lawler, Assistant to the General Secretary.

Beside filling the offices of the Welfare Conference, the Archbishops and Bishops also made

anges in a number of other important standing mmittees.

The Most Rev. James E. Kearney, Bishop of ochester, and the Most Rev. Francis P. Keough, shop of Providence, were elected by the General eeting to membership on the Board of Trustees the Catholic University of America.

The Most Rev. Gerald P. O'Hara, Bishop of Sannah-Atlanta, was elected to the Bishops' Committee on the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, placing Archbishop Murray, who retired after rving the maximum number of terms. Other embers of this committee are the Most Rev. Edin V. O'Hara, Bishop of Kansas City, Chairman; rchbishop McNicholas, the Most Rev. Christian . Winkelmann, Bishop of Wichita, and Bishop earney of Rochester.

The Most Rev. Joseph H. Albers, Bishop of nsing, was elected a member of the Bishops' ommittee on Motion Pictures. He replaced Archshop McNicholas, whose term expired. Other embers of this committee are the Most Rev. John Cantwell, Archbishop of Los Angeles; Bishop oll, Bishop Keough, and the Most Rev. Stephen Donahue, Auxiliary Bishop of New York.

Archbishop Murray was elected to the Bishops' ommittee on the Propagation of the Faith, suceding the Most Rev. Francis J. L. Beckman, rchbishop of Dubuque, who retired under the le limiting continuous service. Other members this committee are Archbishop Spellman, Chairan; Archbishop Rummel, the Most Rev. Charles Buddy, Bishop of San Diego, and the Most Rev. ichard J. Cushing, Auxiliary Bishop of Boston.

Archbishop Cantwell was named to the Committee on the North American College in Rome, king the place of Archbishop Mitty, who had rved the maximum number of terms. Other embers of this committee include His Eminence illiam Cardinal O'Connell, Archbishop of Bosn; His Eminence Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, rchbishop of Philadelphia; the Most Rev. Michael Curley, Archbishop of Baltimore and of Washgton; Archbishop Spellman, Archbishop Mitty, rchbishop Rummel, Archbishop Stritch and shop Ralph L. Hayes, Rector of the North merican College.

The Most Rev. Edwin V. Byrne, Archbishop of nta Fe, was elected a member of the Bishops' ommittee on the Montezuma Seminary for the aining of Mexican candidates for the priesthood. e takes the place of the late Archbishop Rudolph loysius Gerken, his predecessor as Archbishop of nta Fe. Other members of this committee inude Bishop Gannon, Chairman; the Most Rev. ancis C. Kelley, Bishop of Oklahoma City and ulsa; the Most Rev. James A. Griffin, Bishop of ringfield in Illinois; the Most Rev. Joseph H. Schlarman, Bishop of Peoria; the Most Rev. Peter L. Ireton, Coadjutor Bishop of Richmond, and the Most Rev. William D. O'Brien, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago.

The Most Rev. Edward F. Hoban, Coadjutor Bishop of Cleveland, was elected a member of the Committee on Decency in Literature. He took the place of the Most Rev. Edmund F. Gibbons, Bishop of Albany, whose term expired. Other members of this committee are Bishop Noll, Chairman; the Most Rev. Urban J. Vehr, Archbishop of Denver; the Most Rev. Bernard J. Sheil, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, Bishop Alter and the Most Rev. Joseph E. Ritter, Bishop of Indianapolis.

Despite the difficulty of travel and the press of other engagements at this time of the year there were a hundred members of the Hierarchy present for the meetings in Washington this year.

The Most Rev. Michael J. Curley, Archbishop of Baltimore and of Washington, presided over the sessions. Others in attendance included:

The Most Rev. Archbishops John J. Cantwell of Los Angeles, John A. Floersh of Louisville, John J. Glennon of St. Louis, Moses E. Kiley of Milwaukee, Robert E. Lucey of San Antonio, John T. McNicholas, O.P., of Cincinnati; John J. Mitty of San Francisco, Edward Mooney of Detroit, John Gregory Murray of St. Paul, Joseph F. Rummel of New Orleans, Francis J. Spellman of New York, Samuel A. Stritch of Chicago, Urban J. Vehr of Denver and Thomas J. Walsh of Newark.

The Most Rev. Bishops William L. Adrian of Nashville, Joseph H. Albers of Lansing, Karl J. Alter of Toledo, Henry Althoff of Belleville, Gerald T. Bergen of Des Moines, Stanislaus V. Bona of Grand Island, John J. Boylan of Rockford, Matthew F. Brady of Burlington, William F. Brady of Sioux Falls, Charles F. Buddy of San Diego, James E. Cassidy of Fall River, William J. Condon of Great Falls, Francis R. Cotton of Owensboro, James P. Davis of San Juan, Puerto Rico; John A. Duffy of Buffalo, Bernard T. Espelage, O.F.M., of Gallup, Bartholomew J. Eustace of Camden, Edmond J. Fitzmaurice of Wilmington, Walter A. Foery of Syracuse, John Mark Gannon of Erie, Daniel J. Gercke of Tucson, Richard O. Gerow of Natchez, Joseph M. Gilmore of Helena, Thomas K. Gorman of Reno, William A. Griffin of Trenton, Richard T. Guilfoyle of Altoona, William J. Hafey of Scranton, Edmond Heelan of Sioux City, Duane G. Hunt of Salt Lake, Joseph P. Hurley of St. Augustine, James E. Kearney of Rochester, Francis P. Keough of Providence, Louis B. Kucera of Lincoln, Charles Hubert LeBlond of St. Joseph, George L. Leech of Harrisburg, Bryan J. McEntegart of Ogdensburg, James A. McFadden of Youngstown, Eugene J. McGuinness of Raleigh, Thomas H. McLaughlin of Paterson, Francis J.

Magner of Marquette, Sidney M. Metzger of El Paso, Aloisius J. Muench of Fargo, John F. Noll of Fort Wayne, William P. O'Connor of Superior, Edwin V. O'Hara of Kansas City, Gerald P. O'Hara of Savannah-Atlanta, Joseph E. Ritter of Indianapolis, Henry P. Rohlman of Davenport, James H. Ryan of Omaha, Vincent J. Ryan of Bismarck, Joseph H. Schlarman of Peoria, Gerald Shaughnessy, S.M., of Seattle, James J. Sweeney of Honolulu, Basil Takack of the Pittsburgh Greek Rite Diocese, Frank A. Thill of Concordia, Thomas J. Toolen of Mobile, Emmet M. Walsh of Charleston, Charles D. White of Spokane, Joseph C. Willging of Pueblo, Aloysius J. Willinger, C.SS.R., of Ponce, Puerto Rico; Christian H. Winkelmann of Wichita.

The Most Rev. Bishops Peter W. Bartholome, Coadjutor of St. Cloud; Leo Binz, Coadjutor and Apostolic Administrator of Winona; Edward F. Hoban, Coadjutor of Cleveland; Peter L. Ireton, Coadjutor of Richmond, Walter J. Fitzgerald, S.J., Coadjutor Vicar Apostolic of Alaska; Thomas A. Boland, Auxiliary of Newark; Joseph A. Burke, Auxiliary of Buffalo; Augustine A. Danglmayr, Auxiliary of Dallas; Stephen J. Donahue, Auxiliary of New York; Ralph L. Hayes, Rector of the North American College in Rome; Edward G. Hettinger, Auxiliary of Columbus, Raymond A. Kearney, Auxiliary of Brooklyn; William T. McCarty, C.SS.R., Military Delegate; Joseph T. McGucken, Auxiliary of Los Angeles; J. Francis A. McIntyre, Auxiliary of New York; Henry J. O'Brien, Auxiliary of Hartford; William D. O'Brien, Auxiliary of Chicago; John F. O'Hara, C.S.C., Military Delegate; George J. Rehring, Auxiliary of Cincinnati; Ambrose J. Senyshyn, O.S.B.M., Auxiliary of the Ukrainian Greek Rite Diocese; Bernard J. Sheil, Auxiliary of Chicago; Stephen S. Woznicki, Auxiliary of Detroit, and Francis J. Haas, Bishop-elect of Grand Rapids.

During the general meeting the Bishops agreed to hold the collection for the Bishops' War Emergency and Relief Committee again this coming year on Laetare Sunday, March 19.

An unusual feature of the annual meeting this year was the installation of the new rector of the Catholic University of America, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Patrick J. McCormick.

Some seventy Archbishops and Bishops attended the installation ceremonies at which His Excellency, the Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, read the following radiogram expressing the felicitations of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, to Msgr. McCormick:

"The Holy Father on the auspicious occasion of your taking formal possession of the Rectorship of Catholic University, Washington, desires to extend his personal good wishes for the successfu direction and advancement of the lofty missio fulfilled by the University in Catholic intellectua life of America, especially in diffusing knowledg of Papal teachings on Christian social order. As a earnest of paternal solicitude His Holiness impart to the Rector, all of faculty, students, friends, th Apostolic Blessing."

After reading the papal greeting, His Excellenc delivered an address in which he stressed the oppor tunity of the University to continue to "exert ove the country a vitalizing influence of human an divine wisdom" in accordance with this lates summons of the Holy Father to it, through its rec tor, to fulfill its social mission.

"The presence of each one of us here this after noon is intended as an augury of successful rector ship for the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Patrick J. McCor mick. In this solemn circumstance I cannot re frain from stressing the dominant note of th Pontifical message which has just been read.

"From its very beginning, under the enlight ened guidance of the American Hierarchy, th Catholic University, has been a far-sighted an rich purveyor of these exalted teachings. . . .

"This auspicious occasion of the formal inau guration of the new Rector of the Catholic Uni versity has provided the Holy Father with a fur ther opportunity to emphasize, in this period o world tumult and disorganization, the thought o the Christian reorganization of society. . . .

"The Pope of the Christmas messages on Chris tian peace and social order; the Pope who seiz every occasion to point out and explain the funda mental values of social life—as he did with part cular insistence in June, 1941, by recalling th Encyclical *Rerum Novarum*—this same Pope is, who now summons the Catholic University t the fulfillment of its social mission."

Concluding his remarks, Archbishop Cicognar said:

"Humanity's present tragic hour makes th commission from the Sovereign Pontiff, Pius XI all the more solemn and more binding, becaus there is more need than before to proclaim th truth taught by Christianity on the origin, natur and destiny of man, and his mission in society, a well as to insist on the indispensable bases of socia reconstruction.

"To you, Right Reverend Monsignor, who hav in a spirit of love lived the traditions of this Uni versity, is entrusted the noble charge of maintain ing and advancing them. Under your direction may all, both professors and students, draw fron the resources of this institution vigorous intellec tual and moral training, and be thus enabled t make an outstanding contribution to spreadin the teaching of the Vicar of Christ."

N. C. W. C. EPISCOPAL REPORTS

Digests of Reports of Departments of Welfare Conference for Fiscal Year 1942-43 to Annual General Meeting of Archbishops and Bishops of the United States

AS IS their usual custom the Episcopal Chairmen of the various departments of the National Catholic Welfare Conference made heir reports on the activities of their respective epartments during the past fiscal year—July 1, 942 to June 30, 1943—to the Archbishops and ishops of the United States assembled in general ssion at the Catholic University of America. Many and varied were the matters reported and the influence of the war policies was everywhere evident.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Reporting as Chairman of the Administrative oard of the N. C. W. C., the Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, called attention o the fact that in the war economy it was only o be expected that Government program and polies would have an important effect on the social nd educational agencies of the Church. He added hat the Administrative Board has labored to keep he Bishops well advised of the major current probms, and that "all N. C. W. C. resources have been ell used during the past critical year." The wide ariety of problems raised by the war have been ourageously and hopefully met, said Archbishop Mooney.

Problems arising out of new tax proposals, real tate and personal; out of the application of Sective Service, and out of decisions of War Manower boards regarding workers in educational, eligious and charitable institutions, were some of hose referred to by Archbishop Mooney. He ointed out the importance of the work of War elief Services, N. C. W. C., during the past year; hat "the contributions made by our Catholic eople to the Bishops' War Emergency and Relief ork have received the commendation and appreation of the Holy Father"; that the plans were uccessfully put into effect for the publication in his country of *Acta Apostolicae Sedis,* official ublication of the Holy See, and that the Latinmerican Seminar sponsored by the N. C. W. C. the course of the year was "historic" and gained the highest praise from prelates and lay aders throughout Mexico, Central and South merica."

"The situation of the American family, certainly very grave before the war, has grown worse since its outbreak," Archbishop Mooney told the meeting. "The present divorce rate makes even the formerly complacent sociologists alarmed. Wider employment of women, easy money, boomtown living and an apparent widespread and growing cynicism regarding any sort of moral restraint are noted in the increasing number of broken homes and the alarming incidence of juvenile delinquency. Contrary to the popular view, we recognize that these problems cannot be solved by legislation alone. This is a field in which the home, the Church and the school must find extraordinary opportunities for preventive and remedial programs.

"The danger of depopulation continues very real, although there has been some upturn in the birth rate. Indeed frantic efforts are being made during these war-disturbed times to promote more intensely the program of the former Birth Control Federation. When that name became synonymous with the falling birth rate the organization changed it to the Planned Parenthood Federation. For several years past special efforts were directed toward social workers. The plan for perfecting a network of local birth control organizations across the country continues steadily.

"While the disturbed conditions of the times have given impetus to these evils directly, they have also hurt the home indirectly by giving rise to a new wave of perverted feminism that is obviously bent upon turning women still more away from the home and towards extradomestic occupations. No patriotic citizen may consider lightly the disastrous consequences of these evils on the nation. The scandal of child delinquency and all that it connotes in qualities of citizenship is a natural outcome of unholy homes."

Archbishop Mooney reported on the work of the N. C. W. C. Family Life Bureau, supported by the various national committees of the National Council of Catholic Women, to give local and national publicity to Catholic teachings on the family.

The Archbishop also told the meeting that the Administrative Board had presented to Government authorities "its grave concern on reported procedures in service camps and stations for pre-

vention of venereal disease," and said that representations have resulted in assurances that "consciences of our men will be respected."

The Church in the United States shared the bitter grief of the Catholic world that the City and Diocese of the Holy Father had finally to endure the fury of aerial warfare. Our repeated expressions of grave concern and regret will aid in saving the Eternal City from the disaster threatening it in these fateful days."

Printed accounts which were made a part of Archbishop Mooney's report to the General Meeting of the Bishops gave interesting facts regarding the Bishops' War Emergency and Relief work and the War Relief Services, N. C. W. C. Some facts from these reports will be found on page 17 of this issue.

Archbishop Mooney also presented to the Bishops resumes of the work of the Bureau of Immigration for the year and of the N. C. W. C. Business Office.

During the year the Bureau of Immigration was confronted by constantly changing situations due to wartime control. Among these were the changes in the status of citizens of various countries affected by the war, the establishment of a Board of Appeals within the State Department, and the changed status of enemy aliens within our own country.

The report stated that the "matters referred to our N. C. W. C. Bureau of Immigration grow more and more complex and varied as the years go by; that it has become in truth a migration rather than merely an immigration service; and that it serves also many American citizens, especially ecclesiastics and Religious whose duties take them out of the country and who thus find themselves in need of expert advice in these days of complicated travel. Undoubtedly the Bureau's chief value, from the technical standpoint is its ability to coordinate the necessary procedures of the different divisions of our own and foreign government departments, which determine admission to and departure from the United States.

The N. C. W. C. Business Office report showed a total of 169,822 pamphlets distributed during the year. While the present emphasis in N. C. W. C. publications work is on the subject of peace, there were approximately 300 different pamphlet titles available. "Principles for Peace," the 894-page book prepared by the Bishops' Committee on the Pope's Peace Points, was the outstanding publication in the peace field. Review and complimentary copies were distributed through the N. C. W. C. Business Office.

The Papal Encyclicals continued to be a feature of the N. C. W. C. publications lists, 21 titles of Encyclicals of Popes Leo XIII, Pius XI and Pius XII, being among the thousands of titles distributed.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Throughout the year the Department of Education has been occupied mainly with problems that arise directly or indirectly out of the war and its impact on the Catholic schools, said the Most Rev. John T. McNicholas, O.P., Archbishop of Cincinnati. Government agencies responsible for the various phases of the war effort are utilizing organized education wherever possible in the prosecution of their programs. It is the responsibility of the Department to see that the right and the readiness of Catholic schools to participate in these programs are recognized and at the same time to keep the schools themselves informed of the educational activities of the Government.

The fact that the war has had such a dislocating effect on the American college is occasioning a restudy on the part of important educational groups of the real purpose of college education and the changes that may have to be made in the whole system if its true values are to be safeguarded and perpetuated. There are many who are convinced that liberal arts education should be completed earlier and thus be free from the necessity of considering the demands for pre-professional training. What is involved here is the whole problem of the reorganization of the American educational system for, if college education is to be completed earlier, it will have to begin earlier. This in turn would affect the secondary schools and eventually the elementary schools.

The Department has been following closely the activities of various groups that are interesting themselves in the problems that will face education in the post-war world. Some rather elaborate schemes are being proposed looking toward the reconstruction of education in the occupied countries and the reconstituting of education in the conquered lands. Most of what is being suggested to date is rather unrealistic . Perhaps the most substantial element in all the discussion is the proposal that there be set up some kind of an international educational organization that would function much as the International Labor Office has functioned since the last war. Such an organization, though it would include representatives of government, would be largely voluntary in character.

The condition of the times was reflected in an increased demand for boarding schools for young children, nursery schools, and vocational schools. The trend toward these three types of schools, which began several years ago, has no doubt been accentuated by the war.

Under the head of Special Activities the report presents the work of the various sections of the Department which include Research and Information, Statistics, Inter-American Collaboration, Teachers' Registration, Library Service, and Educational Publications.

PRESS DEPARTMENT

Throughout the past historically eventful 12 months, the *N. C. W. C. News Service* was the only news agency in this country with a correspondent in Vatican City, or in Rome, the Most Rev. John Mark Gannon, Bishop of Erie, stated in his annual report to the general meeting of the Bishops.

During the year the Press Department so strengthened its coverage of Vatican news as to become the only source of complete information on Vatican war-time thought and activity, Bishop Gannon said, pointing out also that much material was obtained through Vatican sources concerning the occupied countries of Europe, as well as copious documentation and interesting pictorial matter.

This news of vital interest not only to Catholics but to the people of the world generally, was transmitted to many countries of the world, and by means of the Department's Spanish-language service, *Noticias Catolicas,* especially to the countries of Latin America. A large number of new subscribers to *Noticias Catolicas* was obtained, and further progress was made in the project to provide a service in the Portuguese language to reach the people of Brazil and Portugal.

In preventing or correcting error concerning Catholic happenings, the News Service provided numerous authentic news dispatches and interpretative articles from the pens of prominent Catholic specialists in their respective fields, forestalling or clearing up misinterpretations of Catholic thought and activity concerning important events and movements.

The News Service registered an increase of 21 subscribers during the year, Bishop Gannon said, bringing the total to 204. Despite prior loss of subscribers in several countries in the Orient due to the war, the Service forged ahead in the number of lands served to a new high of 32. During the year there was particularly heavy expense because of multiplied radio news transmission.

No fewer than six world-wide Papal messages were placed before Catholic readers throughout the world through the facilities of the News Service. Five of these pronouncements dealt directly with the war and problems of peace and reconstruction. The sixth was the Encyclical on the Mystical Body of Christ.

Outstanding in the Pictorial Service was the constant portrayal in photographic form of the activities of the Vatican. The Feature Service was continued as a companion to the basic News Service, as were also the Christmas, Easter and School Supplements. Publication by the N. C. W. C. late in 1942 of the booklet entitled "The Nazi War Against the Catholic Church" was made possible by the voluminous documents and reports taken from the files of the *N. C. W. C. News Service.*

Problems of re-establishing correspondent contacts in the various countries of Europe are now occupying the attention of the Department, Bishop Gannon said, as the time approaches when reconstruction of the Catholic press in Europe may be undertaken.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

The Legal Department has expanded its services to other departments of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, to the National Catholic Community Service, to the War Relief Services N. C. W. C., and to Catholic agencies and institutions throughout the United States, the Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans, told the Bishops. This expansion is due in great measure to problems arising out of war.

Restrictions on manpower, on many essential materials, on food and air travel facilities resulting from war, have given rise to innumerable problems which could be solved only in consultation with administrative officers of the Federal Government. The handling of such matters through the department has resulted in great economy and saving of time, has prevented confusion and vexation and has contributed substantially to the war effort by facilitating the services in numerous fields rendered by Catholic agencies.

Through conferences with the Manpower Commission consideration has been given to the needs peculiar to religious, health, educational and charitable agencies. Critical materials have been made available for the construction of necessary hospital and similar facilities at times with the aid of Lanham Act funds; travel by air has been arranged for educators, social workers and missionaries assigned to distant fields in the other American republics, and transportation for necessary supplies, Mass wine, school supplies, etc., needed by the missions.

Government agencies have expressed appreciation for the coordination effected by channeling through a single department in Washington all

(*Turn to page* 14)

N. C. W. C. Supports Senate Resolution For Relief of Needy in Stricken Lands

Resolution No. 100, now before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, would urge the State Department to "endeavor as quickly as possible to work out, in cooperation with the British Government and the Governments of Sweden, Switzerland, and the accredited representatives of the other governments concerned, the setting up of systematic and definite relief for all stricken and hungry countries where the need is now the most acute; this relief to be based on agreements by the belligerents for the protection of the native and imported food supplies, with rigid safeguarding of such relief so that no military advantage whatever may accrue to the civil populations or armed forces of the invading nations."

Such relief has been a deep concern and constant endeavor of the Bishops of the United States for several years and it is therefore most natural that, through a letter written by Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Ready, general secretary of the N. C. W. C., the Administrative Board of Archbishops and Bishops of the N. C. W. C. should offer their support to the resolution. The letter of Monsignor Ready follows:

"The Administrative Board of Archbishops and Bishops, National Catholic Welfare Conference, directs me to place on record with the Senate Committee support for the Senate Resolution No. 100. For the past three years the Bishops of the Church in the United States have endeavored to bring every possible help to the distressed peoples of the United Nations, now enduring the occupation of German forces. To that end financial help was offered to the Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, who through the resources of the Holy See, was able from time to time to send some aid to the suffering women and children of the occupied countries.

"The Bishops believe that the relief proposed in the resolution will not only fulfill our duty in charity to our suffering brethren but also by its spontaneity emphasize the unity of the people of the United States with the brave citizens of the United Nations, who have suffered so long the burdens of our common struggle against aggression.

"The resolution has the fervent support of the National Catholic Welfare Conference."

Bishop Broderick, of New York Archdiocese, Dies at Age of 74

The Most Rev. Bonaventure F. Broderick, Titular Bishop of Giuliopoli and Vicar for Religious in the Archdiocese of New York, died on November 18 in the Frances Schervier Hospital and Home for the Aged, New York City, where he had served as chaplain during the last few years.

Bishop Broderick, who was 40 years a bishop, would have been 75 years old on Christmas Day of this year. He was educated at St. Charles' College in Maryland and the Urban College of Propaganda in Rome, where he received the degrees of doctor of philosophy and of doctor of divinity. After teaching and pastorate work in the United States, Bishop Broderick was appointed American secretary to Archbishop, later Cardinal, Sbaretti, in Havana in 1900 and helped to carry to a successful conclusion diplomatic negotiations between Church and State in 1905.

Pope Leo XIII named him a Papal Chamberlain in 1901. Appointed American secretary of the Apostolic Delegation in the Philippines in 1901, he resigned that post in 1902 and served as the representative of the Church at the Cuban Republican inauguration ceremonies on May 20, 1902. He was named Titular Bishop of Giuliopoli in September, 1903, and was consecrated on October 28 of that year. He became Bishop of Havana in 1903 and served in that capacity until March 1, 1905.

Month by Month

Bishops Receive Reports of Catholic Church Extension Society

Another meeting of interest held during the month of November and in line with the other reports in this issue of CATHOLIC ACTION is that of the Catholic Church Extension Society, in Chicago on November 15. This annual meeting is held each year the week following the annual meeting of the Bishops of the United States in Washington and is for the purpose of surveying the activities of the past year and directing the Society's work for the coming year.

This, the 38th annual meeting, reported that during the past fiscal year, from October 1, 1942, to September 30, 1943, more than $800,000 had been distributed by the Extension Society for building and repairing mission chapels throughout the United States and its dependencies; distributing Mass Intentions to the Missionary Bishops for acquittal by their missionary priests; helping Missionary priests; helping Missionary Bishops to support their students for the priesthood and paying monthy subsidies to nearly 125 priests located in poor missions where they do not receive a sufficient livelihood.

Report on the Society's magazine, *Extension*, dealt with the circulation and finances of the magazine and pointed out the difficulties of financing a large missionary magazine in wartime.

Another report to the meeting explained the reduced interest rate which has been made necessary on all new annuities accepted by the Society due to changed commercial conditions. Old annuities will continue to pay the interest contracted at the time of writing of the annuities. New contracts will be made at the current rate of three percent.

The governing board of Extension Society now consists of all the Archbishops of the United State, a dozen Bishops, twelve outstanding prelates and priests, and a similar number of laymen, under the chairmanship of the Most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago.

CATHOLIC ACTION—MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF T

"We have grouped together, under the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the various agencies by which the cause of religion is furthered. Each of these, continuing its own special work in its chosen field, will now derive additional support through general cooperation."
—From the 1919 Pastoral Letter of the Archbishops and Bishops of the U. S.

N. C. W. C. ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

MOST REV. EDWARD MOONEY, Archbishop of Detroit, chairman of the Administrative Board and episcopal chairman of the Executive Department; MOST REV. SAMUEL A. STRITCH, Archbishop of Chicago, vice chairman of the Administrative Board and treasurer; MOST REV. FRANCIS J. SPELLMAN, Archbishop of New York, secretary of the Administrative Board; MOST REV. JOHN T. MCNICHOLAS, O.P., Archbishop of Cincinnati, episcopal chairman of the Department of Education; MOST REV. JOSEPH F. RUMMEL, Archbishop of New Orleans, episcopal chairman of the Legal Department; MOST REV. JOHN J. MITTY, Archbishop of San Francisco, episcopal chairman of the Department of Catholic Action Study; MOST REV. JOHN F. NOLL, Bishop of Fort Wayne, episcopal chairman of the Department of Lay Organiza-

with the N.C.W.C.

NCCS Loses Its Public Relations Director

Courtenay Savage, director of public relations for the National Catholic Community Service, is on leave to assume special duties with the War Department, it was announced at NCCS Headquarters, Washington, recently.

Mr. Savage, widely known author, playwright and radio writer, has been associated with the Catholic member agency of USO since December, 1941, and during this time has written numerous news and feature articles for Catholic and secular magazines as well as national broadcasts, including two series on NCCS work. Since the organization of the Bishops' War Emergency and Relief Committee in 1941, he has written and supervised annual broadcasts in connection with fund-raising.

He is actively associated with the Catholic Theatre Movement, and is at present a member of the Executive Committee of the National Catholic Theatre Conference.

Mr. Savage will leave immediately for Los Angeles where he will begin a special assignment for the Radio Section of the Army Special Service Division.

Feast of Immaculate Conception Dedicated to Universal Prayer for Peace

Our Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, fervently recommends that all pray that there be granted men the gift of God's peace, "a peace that will be sincere, founded not upon arms, nor upon force, nor upon hatred, but upon law, upon truth, upon justice, and upon fraternal charity." For this reason, His Holiness ardently desires that on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the anniversary of the consecration of the human race to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin, there be offered public prayer in all parts of the world.

This appeal has recently been made to the world through a letter addressed to His Eminence, Luigi Cardinal Maglione, Papal Secretary of State.

In the beginning of the letter, His Holiness observes sadly that amidst ruins of war, certainly the greatest in history, many are still living forgetful of God's holy laws or despising them. All, the Holy Father says, lament the increasing sufferings, privation, and terrible economic crisis, and are fearful of the future. But not all consider that humanity is paying the penalty merited by its desertion of God.

Therefore, Pope Pius declares, he believes it is opportune to exhort the faithful, through his Cardinal Secretary of State, to prayer and penance. It is necessary, His Holiness continues, that all people be united in love of God and love of neighbor amidst the raging hatreds that are current, not only renewing their faith, not only asking pardon for their own offenses, but "with voluntary acts of penance, striving to expiate also the sins of others."

His Holiness imparts his paternal Apostolic Blessing to all those who generally and devoutly correspond to his exhortation to all the world to pray that peace may be reestablished upon the earth.

Monsignor Johnson Named Director of Catholic University Citizenship Commission

Rt. Rev. Msgr. George Johnson, director of the Campus School of Catholic University and director of the Department of Education of the N. C. W. C., has just been appointed director of the Commission on American Citizenship by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Patrick J. McCormick, rector of Catholic University of America and president of the Commission. Dr. Johnson has been a member of the executive committee of the Commission since its establishment in 1939 by the American Hierarchy.

This committee, under the chairmanship of the Most Rev. Francis J. Haas, now Bishop of Grand Rapids, directs the program designed by the American Hierarchy to reaffirm the Church's traditional position of unswerving allegiance to free American institutions and to construct an educational plan for the broadening and deepening of Christian principles of social living.

Under the general direction of Bishop Haas and Monsignor Johnson the Commission has already issued eight of the ten Readers of its Faith and Freedom Series for Catholic elementary schools. With Bishop Haas, Monsignor Johnson has also directed the building of a curriculum for elementary schools. The first volume setting down for primary grades the structure for guiding growth in Christian Social Living, has just gone to press. Later volumes, for intermediate and upper grades, will follow. In addition to its purely academic activities, the Commission works for the maintenance of good will among citizens of various races and religions and for the promotion of better relationships and understandings among all American citizens.

A Word Especially to the New Readers of CATHOLIC ACTION

Regular sections of CATHOLIC ACTION, omitted this month in order to present a fairly comprehensive report of the action of the annual general meeting of the Archbishops and Bishops of the United States, will be resumed with the January, 1944, issue. Current paper regulations worked against our desire to print a somewhat larger magazine to accommodate at least some sectional material. We are glad, however, to have seen our way to include the Forum article and Index to the current volume. Much as we regret the omissions, we feel happy in being able to give our readers so much of the interesting and valuable information contained in the reports to the Bishops in general session and their joint statement on "Essentials for a Good Peace."

NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

tions; MOST REV. JOHN GREGORY MURRAY, Archbishop of St. Paul, episcopal chairman of the Press Department; MOST REV. KARL J. ALTER, Bishop of Toledo, episcopal chairman of the Department of Social Action; and the MOST REV. JAMES H. RYAN, Bishop of Omaha, episcopal chairman of the Department of Youth.

RIGHT REV. MSGR. MICHAEL J. READY
General Secretary
VERY REV. MSGR. HOWARD J. CARROLL, S.T.D.
Assistant General Secretary
REV. JAMES LAWLER
Assistant to the General Secretary

REV. PAUL F. TANNER
Editor

Opinions expressed in articles published in this magazine are to be regarded as those of the respective contributors. They do not necessarily carry with them the formal approval of the Administrative Board, National Catholic Welfare Conference.

problems related to Catholic agencies and institutions.

The provisions of the Selective Service Act, as amended, have been well understood. Borderline cases, affecting students preparing for the ministry, have been relatively few but at times have called for careful consideration. An important achievement facilitating correct decisions by local draft boards has been the adoption of a list of Catholic schools and seminaries which are "divinity" schools within the meaning of the Selective Service Act.

Similarly the food requirements of hospitals and institutions have been clarified with resulting liberalization of rationing. Materials for building and equipment have not been available in quantities required, but, in cases of need arising out of war activities, these needs have been clearly presented and in most instances the necessary materials have been made available.

By our own government, as well as by the governments and people of the other republics, sympathy has been manifested in the growing interest of religious communities in the United States in missionary and social service activities in the other republics. An increasing number of members of religious orders of men and women are dedicating themselves to this work. The department has cooperated in arrangement of travel priority facilities for persons and supplies needed by these pioneers in inter-American cooperation. The department cooperated with the Catholic Hospital Association in arranging for an in-service program of training under which two hospital Sisters from each of the other American republics will have an opportunity to study hospital administration in the United States.

The department has found opportunity to present to Congressional Committees the Catholic point of view on pertinent legislative proposals, especially in fields of social action, child welfare and education. The department similarly cooperated in legislative action for the protection of racial minorities and Mexican labor in seasonal employment.

The department continues its efforts to promote acceptable legislation that would extend federal old age and survivors insurance to the employes of tax-exempt agencies. Several bills have been introduced in Congress. These would extend coverage by an amendment which would depart from the taxation procedure and substitute a system of compulsory contributions payable directly into the Insurance Trust Fund and these at no time would be available for appropriation for any purpose other than the payment of administration costs and benefits under the insurance system.

SOCIAL ACTION DEPARTMENT

Activities of the N. C. W. C. Social Action Department for the year began with the Inter-American Seminar for Social Studies and closed with preparation for the Conference on the Spanish Speaking People of the Southwest and West, the Most Rev. Karl J. Alter, Bishop of Toledo, said in his annual report to the Bishops.

The Inter-American Seminar, Bishop Alter said, was an outstanding success in every respect; being widely regarded as one of the outstanding Catholic events of 1942. A full account of the conference was given in the October, 1942, issue of CATHOLIC ACTION.

In its industrial relations activities the Department continued to stress Catholic social teaching, with special emphasis upon steps to be taken in post-war reconstruction, particularly the idea of business-labor-farmer cooperation with government in the handling of production, prices and incomes both now and in the post-war world.

Much work was done in assisting priests and seminarians to obtain a better understanding of these problems. A monthly letter and pamphlets and other material in the field of social legislation were sent to 700 priests upon special request. A four-year course for seminarians' study clubs was prepared, and formal conferences were held with groups of priests in six cities. Less formal conferences were held in other cities. Courses were prepared for workers' study clubs to be conducted by priests. A member of the Department advised with Mexican Bishops on seminary curriculum.

Four regional two-day industrial conferences were held in various cities during the year. This year was the first time the older part of the South had an industrial conference, and it evoked an enthusiastic response.

The Seventh Annual Institute on Industry was held in cooperation with the National Council of Catholic Women.

The Department assisted in preparing new translations of *Rerum Novarum* and *Quadragesimo Anno;* took an active part in securing the revival of the United States Fair Employment Practice Committee, in behalf of the Tolan Committee on War Work, in behalf of Chinese and Filipinos; assisted the Negro Catholic Federation in the economic part of its work and cooperated with a special institute on minorities.

The work in the field of international relations and peace centered in the preparation of material

on the Papal Peace Program. Special emphasis was laid in meetings and publications upon the present cooperation of the United Nations as a basis for the development of a post-war world organization.

Three regional meetings were held, two statements issued, three pamphlet-reports prepared, and Spanish and Portuguese translations of two pamphlets, "America's Peace Aims" and the "World Society," were arranged for. Steps were taken to secure action by Catholics, Jews and Protestants upon a peace program, and a monthly news letter was edited and sent to a list of 1,000 interested persons and groups.

A Washington Catholic seminar on international relations was organized and conducted.

The Department collaborated in the program and study outline for the National Catholic Collegiate Congress in Cincinnati in December; cooperated with the National Council of Catholic Women and the International Relations Commission of the National Federation of Catholic College Students in planning the year's program of the International Relations Committee.

A Department member sat on the President's committee to recommend changes in the Organic Act of Puerto Rico.

The program for the conference on the Spanish Speaking of the Southwest and West concerned their lay organizations and leadership, the discrimination against them, their ability to obtain employment and a livelihood, and the development of leadership among them.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

A new project undertaken by the Youth Department to meet an acute wartime need was the administration of a "grants-in-aid" program designed to alleviate more desperate needs of Catholic Chaplains working with military trainees stationed on secular college and university campuses. The project was made possible through an appropriation of $50,000 by the Bishops' War Emergency and Relief Fund. Due to the large percentage of Catholics among the trainees the appropriation permits a basis of only 40 cents per trainee per year for the average grant, assisting the chaplains in providing for extra Masses, confessions, sick calls, religious articles and literature and otherwise caring for the spiritual needs of the trainees. So stated the Most Rev. John A. Duffy, Bishop of Buffalo, in making his departmental report to the Bishops.

Representing the viewpoint of the Catholic youth of the country, the Youth Department has been called upon many times to confer with executives in the Office of Civilian Defense, the Office of Price Administration, the Children's Bureau, the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs and other governmental agencies, in meeting various youth problems incident to the war.

The Most Rev. William J. Hafey, Bishop of Scranton, was invited by the Episcopal Chairman to become associated with him in representing the Junior Catholic Daughters of America. A letter of recognition was given the Camp Fire Girls, Inc., by the Episcopal Chairman and with the consent of the Archbishop of New York, Father Robert Brown, of the New York C. Y. O. Office, was appointed to act as liaison officer between the Youth Department and the National Office of the Camp Fire Girls, in which capacity he already acts with the Girl Scouts, Inc.

At the present time 102 dioceses out of a total of 115 have appointed Diocesan Youth Directors. Despite adverse circumstances, practically all of the organized dioceses have conducted leadership training institutes for lay adult leaders. Leadership courses for priests and seminarians were given in the dioceses of Buffalo and Detroit. Approximately a dozen major seminaries gave leadership courses on the Catholic Youth Apostolate with outlines furnished by the Department.

Outstanding among the achievements of the college and university section of the National Catholic Youth Council was the Catholic Collegiate Congress on "Victory in War and in Peace," sponsored jointly by the Newman Club Federation and the National Federation of Catholic College Students. The Congress brought together for the first time 331 delegates from 60 Catholic and 118 delegates from 25 secular colleges and universities.

Despite the war the N. F. C. C. S. added 20 affiliates during the past year bringing to 85 the number of colleges and universities now active members of the Federation. There also has been a growth in the number of regions with ten N. F. C. C. S. regions now organized. In the face of a sharp decrease in civilian college student enrollment the Newman Club Federation still maintains a roster of 140 dues-paying clubs, the majority of which carry on a more or less complete program of Newman Club activities as far as accelerated class schedules permit extra-curricular activity. In addition to the 360 priests listed as Newman Club Chaplains, contact has been established with 124 priests who have been assigned by their Ordinaries to work with Catholic trainees at secular institutions where few if any Catholic students have been enrolled in normal times.

LAY ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT

The reports of the National Council of Catholic Men and the National Council of Catholic Women—coordinate branches of the Lay Organ-

izations Department—were presented by the Most Rev. John F. Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne.

National Council of Catholic Men

An encouraging growth in the activities sponsored by the National Council of Catholic Men is reflected in its report for the year 1942-43. Two such activities of importance were assumed during the year. One consists of the assistance that N. C. C. M. is now giving to the Episcopal Committee on Obscene Literature and the N. O. D. L. by acting as a coordinating agency for the review of magazines and for negotiations with magazine publishers. The other is the Narberth Movement, the great apostolic work of the late Karl Rogers for the diffusion of Catholic information through direct-by-mail pamphlets and press releases.

The work of N. O. D. L. has been most effective during the past year. The list of *Magazines Disapproved* by N. O. D. L. has been revised to eliminate those titles that have ceased publication or which have been brought into conformity with the standards set by N. O. D. L. The number of such magazines up to June 30, 1943, is 54. Even a cursory glance at the average newsstand will reveal that the pictures—both the cover pictures and the inside pictures—have improved vastly in most of the magazines on sale; and the stories in the majority of magazines no longer feature illicit love, suicide, abortions, and similar objectionable material.

At the close of the reported year the Narberth Catholic Information articles were appearing in 163 secular newspapers with a gross circulation of approximately 833,841. Thirty-seven of these newspapers have been added since the Movement was taken over by N. C. C. M. There are 23 local groups circulating the Narberth pamphlets among neighborhood non-Catholics.

A Diocesan Council of Catholic Men was established in St. Augustine, Fla.; the Toledo Diocesan Council of Catholic Men was reorganized during the reported year; and the Gary Deanery Council, Diocese of Fort Wayne, was also established. In the Diocese of Toledo, a full-time executive secretary has been employed, and employment of a full-time man is contemplated in St. Augustine.

The year ending March 2, 1943, marked the close of the Catholic Hour's thirteenth year on the air. During the current year it was carried on 89 stations. Catholic Hour audience mail for the year was 129,517 pieces. The number of Catholic Hour pamphlets distributed during the year was 222,000. The total distribution of Catholic Hour addresses since its inception is 1,881,234 pamphlets containing 6,755,800 addresses.

National Council of Catholic Women

A record of steady growth was reported by the National Council of Catholic Women. Two new diocesan councils were established during the past year, the Chicago Archdiocesan Council and the Pueblo Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, bringing the total of diocesan councils to 67. Approximately 3,800 local organizations are affiliated. In addition, 18 national and 7 state organizations were also affiliated.

Dioceses 100 percent affiliated include Charleston, Chicago, Denver, Fort Wayne, Harrisburg, LaCrosse, Winona. Councils having 90 percent or more of their organizations affiliated are Oklahoma City-Tulsa and Springfield in Illinois. Davenport, Detroit, Galveston, Nashville, St. Augustine, San Francisco, Savannah-Atlanta, and New Orleans are over 80 percent affiliated; while Indianapolis, Peoria, Pueblo, and Seattle are over 70 percent affiliated.

New publications issued during the year include the 1942 *Convention Proceedings, Meditations on Our Blessed Mother, Memorandum on Youth Work, Responsibilities of National Directors of N. C. C. W., We Catholics and our Community,* and *Safeguarding the Home Front.* Continuing popular was *A Call to Service.*

Held for the first time during the past year was a leaders' institute to which was invited N. C. C. W. Board members and chairmen of National Committees.

During the year, a new service was instituted—an "alert" letter to presidents of national organizations, of diocesan councils, and to spiritual moderators—giving an analysis of and calling attention to dangers inherent in certain movements.

The president of the N. C. C. W. has been invited to serve on and attend meetings of the Advisory Committees, Commission on Children in Wartime, and Day Care of Children, Children's Bureau; Advisory Council, Women's interests Section, War Department; National Citizens Committee of the White House Conference on Children in a Democracy; Homes Use Program, National Housing Agency.

Other meetings attended by members of the N. C. C. W. include those called by division of the War Production Board, Office of Price Administration, Office of Civilian Defense, Federal Security Agency.

Reports from Diocesan Councils show an intensification in the work of all the committees despite the fact that much time is being given to war work. Shrines in the Home have been a particularly popular activity during the year. Family and Parent education, international and inter-American relations have claimed the interest of an increasing number of groups.

Of the wartime activities reported, cooperating with the United Service Organization and the National Catholic Community Service led the activities. Chaplains' Aid has been of particular interest to rural groups. Council members have taken and have also taught the many courses being offered by the American Red Cross. Catholic women were well represented on state, county, and local defense councils.

The National Catholic School of Social Service had a total enrollment of 94 during the year 1942-43, 68 full-time students and 53 students in residence. Seven of the students were from Central and South American countries.

SOME EPISCOPAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine

The Most Rev. Edwin V. O'Hara, Bishop of Kansas City and Chairman of the Episcopal Committee of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, announced at the annual meeting of the Bishops at the Catholic University that more than 1,000,000 public school children and youth are under instruction in CCD classes.

His Excellency stated that *Our Parish Confraternity,* the official publication of the CCD, is sent to every parish and mission in the U. S.

The report reveals that the revision of the books of the *Old Testament* is progressing, but may not be completed for several years. It is probable, however, that one or more of the books may be printed in 1944.

An Advisory Board of the National Center consisting of the Metropolitan Directors of the Confraternity began to function during the past year.

A Committee of Teaching Sisters for the National Center has been formed for the purpose of further improving instruction and activities in religion classes for Catholic children attending secular schools. It is hoped the effect of this will be that our Sisters trained in Confraternity work will in even greater numbers serve their parishes in the work of teaching and in organizing religious discussion clubs for public high school students.

The CCD distributed gratis to the *Armed Forces* 400,000 copies of *A Total Moral Defense,* and with the cooperation of St. Anthony Guild, thousands of *New Testaments,* and more than 1,000,000 other pieces of literature and religious articles were sent to Chaplains requesting them.

Most Rev. John T. McNicholas reported on *A Catechism of Christian Doctrine, Revised Edition of the Baltimore Catechism, with Supplementary Statements No. 3* for high school students.

War Emergency and Relief

The world-wide scope of aid rendered in war emergency work was cited by the Most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago and Treasurer of the Administrative Board, N. C. W. C., who reported the work of the Bishops' War Emergency and Relief Committee. He stated that more than a million and a quarter dollars had been contributed to the War Emergency and Relief Fund of the Bishops through the great generosity and cooperation of the Archbishops, Bishops, clergy and Catholic people of the country, making possible the greatest war and relief work of charity in the history of the Church in the United States. The 1943 collection showed a substantial increase over last years' receipts.

Archbishop Stritch's report declared that it is still very necessary that the War Emergency and Relief Collection be taken up during the coming year. "Certainly never in the history of our country," he said, "have the Bishops done a war and relief work of charity in any way comparable to what is being done at this time." The Archbishop added that "even a larger work is going to be done in the future."

Archbishop Stritch reports that disbursements made to the Holy Father in various allotments for relief purposes amounted to $855,954.05. Through the resources available to the Holy See, these moneys brought relief in Slovenia, Croatia, Greece, Belgium, Holland, France, Lithuania, Malta, China, Russia, England, Italy, the Baltic countries, Finland and Poland, and to refugees in other countries. Interned missionaries and prisoners of war were also aided.

One allotment put at the disposal of Pope Pius XII aided the work of the Vatican Office of War Information for War Prisoners, which has brought an enormous amount of consolation to the families of war prisoners in many countries, including the United States.

The Bishops' War Emergency and Relief Committee also made many other disbursements, among them ones to the Bishops' Committee on Montezuma Seminary and to the Military Ordinariate, the Chaplains' Aid Association, and work by the National Catholic Community Service abroad.

Motion Pictures

The Bishops' Committee on Motion Pictures, which directs the policies and operations of the National Legion of Decency, reported on the work during the year of that agency. Four hundred and thirty-nine feature entertainment pictures were reviewed between November, 1942, and November, 1943, by the official reviewing body for the Legion; namely, the Motion Picture Department of the International Federation of

Catholic Alumnae. Of these, 229 were found unobjectionable for general patronage, 151 were found unobjectionable for adults, 55 were found partly objectionable, or Class B, and four were condemned, or rated Class C.

It was said in the report on the work of the Legion of Decency that there was a slight increase in the percentage of films rated Class B, or partly objectionable as compared with the ratings for the comparable period the year before. In the year 1941-42 the pictures rated Class B were 9.62 percent of those reviewed, while in 1942-43 the Class B pictures were 12.53 percent of those reviewed.

War Relief Services, N. C. W. C.

Presenting the annual report of the War Relief Services—N. C. W. C., a participating service of the National War Fund and the agency of the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit and Chairman of the N. C. W. C. Administrative Board, announced that a budget of $2,376,000 for this work had been prepared for the remaining months of 1943 and for the first nine months of 1944, covering 11 projects.

For all projects, Archbishop Mooney reported, appropriations have been received up to the first of December. The budget sets aside funds to cover the expenses of the Catholic Committee for Refugees in the United States, for Polish refugees, for Polish refugees in Mexico, for medical equipment, supplies and clothing for social work activities conducted by the White Fathers and the White Sisters in orphanages, hospitals, dispensaries and nurseries in Algeria and Tunisia; for relief in Malta, particularly among child victims of the war; for aid to refugees in Spain and Portugal, for aid to evacuated children and refugees in England, for Catholic student internees and refugees in Switzerland and elsewhere in Europe, for aid to hospitals, dispensaries, orphanages and refugees in China, for war prisoners and seamen's services.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE

The third annual report of the Secretary to the Board of Trustees of the National Catholic Community Service was presented to the Archbishops and Bishops of the United States at their November meeting, in Washington.

The USO, now moving toward its fourth year of operation, has practically reached the fullness of expansion, and in the leveling-off process is consolidating gains which rapid growth in the beginning did not allow, according to Monsignor Ready's report.

At the present time, NCCS sponsors 459 USO operations, of which 118 are conducted jointly with other agencies of USO. Of the total, 325 are concerned largely with the spiritual, recreational and general welfare of men in the service, while 134 clubs operated by the Women's Division are primarily devoted to work with women and girls—the wives and families of service men; war production workers and women in the armed forces. Twenty-nine full-time operations are sponsored by NCCS for Negroes, with extension service provided through 40 additional clubs. There are, in addition, 48 NCCS clubs financed either locally, or through grants-in-aid from money made available by the Bishops' War Emergency Relief Committee. For the year ending on May 11 last, $4,803,928 was expended by the National Catholic Community Service.

Religious programs under the auspices of the National Catholic Community Service include Field Masses, Communion Breakfasts, Retreats and Novenas, as well as numerous other services which are made available in cooperation with Moderators assigned to all NCCS clubs. Army and Navy Chaplains and local pastors have given generously of their time and wise direction to make the religious programs rich and satisfying, and as closely related to the normal religious activities of those men and women who, because of the war, are removed from the spiritual contacts and influences of their local parishes. Literature, medals, crucifixes and rosaries distributed are in excess of 9,000,000 pieces. NCCS religious supplies and services for past year totaled $421,885.

That USO is discharging its responsibilities nobly is indicated by the results of a survey made recently by the Special Service Division of the Army concerning the attitude of service men to USO clubs. Total monthly attendance at clubs in continental United States is in excess of 20,000,000, and the survey showed that four out of five men consider USO absolutely essential to them during their free hours.

Although USO does not follow the service man overseas because where USO operates is determined by the Army, Navy and the Government, USO Camp Shows is providing entertainment wherever service men are stationed, whether it be overseas or in continental United States.

Since the President's order of July, 1942, creating a single organization to control the collection and distribution of funds of certain specified charitable agencies fulfilling a wartime responsibility, the National War Fund has been designated to conduct a nation-wide campaign in the fall of the year. The 1943 campaign quota is $125,000,000, of which $61,227,000 has been earmarked for USO services.

PRINCIPLES FOR PEACE

N. C. W. C. Forum Series

1943-1944

"The heart of the Papal Plan, the *sine qua non* for its success, is a spirit of Christian cooperation; no plan for peace, no matter how wise or sublime, can ever pass into the realm of reality unless nations are willing to cooperate with nations, groups with other groups, men with their fellowmen." (*From the Introduction to Principles for Peace.*)

IV. The Press and the Peace

Part I

HAVE you ever heard of *La Libre Belgique*? This, the most famed of the 190 underground newspapers of occupied Belgium, originated in 1914. It was the living free voice of the brave little country, "bloody but unbowed," then dominated by the Germans. In 1940, from the bowels of the earth, *La Libre Belgique* started anew to speak for freedom. With dozens of other underground papers it preached and taught sabotage of the Nazi war effort—how successfully the frantic efforts of the Gestapo to stamp them out is testimony enough.

Today, as in other days, some persons ask themselves if such sacrifice of lives, and the spending of energy, does truly serve a worthy purpose.

From the underground has come this answer:

"Is there any use in a victim's crying helplessly for assistance? Of course there is, even if help does not come immediately. The existence of an underground paper means that nothing will drown the voice of patriotism. It means that in order to oppose a tyranical and barbarian regime, there are men and women and young people who voluntarily take up an outlaw's life, full of obscure hardships, of secret action, devotion, daring and danger. . . .

"To these men and to their colleagues in all occupied countries we owe a great debt of gratitude and profound admiration for their courage and unfailing hope in the new world for which they fight."

Yes, the underground is willing to hurl lives on the pyre to keep the fire of patriotism and freedom burning. But what about the free press of a nation such as ours? What part shall *it* play in the building of the new world for which this War of Survival is being fought ? What can it do—what *must* it do—to help win just and lasting peace for a world which, thus far, has never known peace?

Part II

ONE thing which cannot be made *too* plain, and which thus far has certainly not been made plain *enough,* is that we—not only the United Nations or the United States, but you and I personally—cannot afford to win the war and lose the peace. Indeed, if we lose the peace, then in the larger sense we shall also have lost the war, no matter how successful we may be in overthrowing Hitler and the war-lords of Japan and in occupying Berlin and Tokyo. For we, at least, are not in this struggle merely to preserve our territories, not merely to wipe out present dictators and tyrannies; we are in this war to set the stage for peace. The war, then, is hardly even the first act of the play; it is rather the prelude.

Even as a matter of economics, and apart from the loss of human lives and the avalanche of human misery which major wars cause, we cannot afford war every generation. This war is now costing us in excess of $260,000,000 *a day—every day.* This year alone it is costing us almost a hundred *billions* of dollars, or more than $3,000 per family in the United States, and before it is over the cost may run as high as $10,000 per family. You and I cannot afford war every generation. But we have not come to realize as yet that the prevention of war may be more difficult, may demand as big sacrifices, may require more vision and far greater moral courage than is demanded by victory in any given armed struggle. In that sense we are less ready for peace than we were ready for war at the time of Pearl Harbor. Our worst danger even at that time was not that we should eventually lose the war, but that we should be unable to go on after the war and win the peace.

That we are not prepared for peace is all too evident in the dissension among the Republicans, in the discord between the New Dealers and Old Line Democrats; in the hesitancy for a long time of the

Congress to adopt post-war cooperation resolutions. Everybody wants peace, but few agree on just what to do about it. That is why the Pope's Principles for Peace are so important today. They are definite and plain. They are signposts based not on political expediency but on moral truth.

That is why, too, the Catholic press can be, and *must* be, a vital voice in discussions for peace. The press is the voice of the Pope. As Pius XI said, "You are my voice; I do not say that you make my voice heard but that you are really my voice itself; for few indeed would be the number of the children of the common Father who could learn my wishes and thoughts without the aid of the Catholic press."

It is through this voice that true principles for peace can be tellingly expounded. Through this voice our own people can be prepared to accept the responsibilities of peace. Through it the post-war world can successfully be defended against such enemies of true and lasting peace as communism, atheism, excessive individualism both at home and abroad. Through it can be attained the COOPERATION of Catholics with non-Catholics which, above all, is necessary if true and lasting peace is to be achieved.

There is a saying, "One can't go to heaven alone." So, too, we can't win the peace alone. The surest way to lose the peace is for Catholics to think only in terms of a Catholic peace and for non-Catholics to think only in terms of a non-Catholic one. We must be ready and willing to work with those who believe fundamentally in the same kind of a peace that we believe in.

There can, of course, be no thought of compromising the truth. Neither, however, should there be any smugness on our part, any hiding of our light under a bushel, any hoarding of truth. The press can regard itself as the salesman of the truth, without, however, taking the position that it and it alone is the purveyor of true principles for peace.

Our press, therefore, recognizes its duty not only to make known the Popes' Principles for Peace to our own but also to win converts to our position from among those who at the moment believe otherwise. More than this, however, our press recognizes its duty to show the justice and the reasonableness of our position as well as the agreement that exists between the Popes' Principles for Peace and those, say, of President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill in the Atlantic Charter.

If as Pope Pius XII pointed out, "lying literature can be just as deadly as armored cars and airplanes," so, too, truthful literature can be as "lively," in the sense of "life-preserving," as the blood plasma through which thousands of our soldiers are being saved from death. It *can* be, but unfortunately it frequently *is not,* and this because the truth, like the lie, to be effective needs to be tastefully presented and widely circulated. And too often the presentation of truth in our press is hardly tasty and is certainly not well-propagated.

The Catholic press in the United States, nevertheless, is today probably in a better and healthier position than it has ever been. It is presenting, more and more, not only Catholic news, but news in a Catholic manner. In the decade 1932-1942, circulation of Catholic publications in the United States has increased by about 2,000,000. The National Catholic Welfare Conference News Service has more than made up for some losses in countries conquered by the Japanese by expanding its service to countries in the Western Hemisphere. The News Service now goes to Catholic papers in 30 countries or territories outside continental United States.

Thus, the press is in a position to bring to public attention the full texts of important pronouncements of the Holy Father, to stress news from Vatican City concerning war prisoners, the status of the clergy and of the Church in occupied lands, the efforts of the Church to alleviate the sufferings of the war-stricken, the actions of various governments pertaining to religious life, statements of Church leaders in Germany, Austria, France, Poland, Belgium, Spain, and so on.

Part III

WHETHER or not our press will play its full role in the building of a just and lasting peace depends pretty largely on three things: First, the "sweetening," in many cases, of its method of presentation; second, its appearance in many more public places; third, its ability to think, talk and live COOPERATION as one of the essentials, perhaps *the* essential, for true and lasting peace.

As regards the first, Benedict XV has said, "Catholic writers and journalists should be invited to clothe themselves *as elect of God, holy and beloved, with pity and kindness.* Let them show this charity in their writings by abstaining not only from false and groundless accusations, but also from all intemperance and bitterness of language, all of which is contrary to the law of Christ and does but reopen sores as yet unhealed." (*Pacem Dei Munus Pulcherrimum.*)

And the great Leo XIII laid down the same principle in his encyclical *Cum Multa.* "We exhort them" (writers), he said, "to remove all dissensions by their gentleness and moderation and to preserve concord among themselves and in the people, for the influence of writers is great on either side. But nothing can be more opposed to concord than biting words, rash judgments, or

perfidious insinuations, and everything of this kind should be shunned with the greatest care and held in the utmost abhorrence. A discussion in which are concerned the sacred rights of the Church and the doctrines of the Catholic religion should not be acrimonious, but calm and temperate; it is weight of reasoning, and not violence and bitterness of language, which must win victory for the Catholic writer."

With respect to the second point, it is, of course, essential that every Catholic home should strive to have a diocesan paper and at least one good weekly or monthly Catholic magazine. But too often, Catholic families consider their duty accomplished with the payment of their subscription. Too frequently, the paper and the magazine are not well-thumbed. It is an excellent rule where children are concerned for parents to ask them some question the answer to which lies in the columns of the paper. "Did you notice, Johnny, what the Catholic ——— said about the basketball team?" "Or the dance next Wednesday?" "Or the meeting of the Young People's Club?" And since turn about is fair play, an enterprising youngster will probably quiz Dad and Mother now and then too.

It is a fine practice also to adopt the motto, "Pass it on," where the Catholic publication is concerned. Passing it on to Catholics is good, but to non-Catholics is even better. A variation of passing it on is to see to it that Catholic papers and magazines are provided libraries and clubs which do not presently get them.

As for cooperation, the Catholic press has been quick to point out that to promote "lasting peace, neither peace treaties nor the most solemn pacts, nor international meetings or conferences, nor even the noblest and most disinterested efforts of any statesman will be enough unless in the first place are recognized the sacred rights of natural and divine law." (*Caritate Christi.*)

Thus far, however, our press has been more or less hesitant to go beyond this and show that peace treaties and pacts and international meetings and noble and disinterested efforts of statesmen are also necessary, over and above this recognition of moral law. The greatest good is not accomplished by merely mentioning a pact or a treaty and adding with a sort of implicit condemnation that these are no good unless dominated by religion. Too often this practice has led the makers of pacts and treaties to think of us, "Oh, they aren't interested in anything except pious recitals of the principles of natural and divine law."

But we *are* interested. We *must* be interested, unless we are willing to go on having war every generation. We are interested in presenting our most persuasive arguments for the explicit recognition of the moral law at the peace table. We are interested, too, in presenting persuasive arguments for our cooperation in bringing about in the post-war world "a sort of family of peoples calculated . . . to safeguard the order of human society." (*Benedict XV.*)

We are interested in playing up the five-point program of Pius XII. We should be almost equally interested in playing up, and with almost equal vigor, the Atlantic Charter, the Four Freedoms, and any other bases for peace which are moral and right.

Our press will never fail to point out that all public power proceeds from God and that a State from which religion is banished can never be truly well-regulated. It will never be derelict in its condemnation of abuses of the rights of laborers to a decent living. It will never succumb to the persuasions of those who peddle birth control, divorce, and other viruses which poison family life. The press will continue to stand as firm as the Church Herself.

But the time has come when the Catholic press can afford to pass from defense of Catholic principles to the offense—an offense in which it will more actively support and cooperate with those whose peace principles and labor principles and family principles are in fundamental agreement with those of the Popes and of the Church.

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS

1. What is the mission of the press, in war or in peace, as disclosed by the sacrifice of the underground movement in Europe?
2. What can you say about the costs of war?
3. How can the press promote the cooperation of all groups in the work of Peace?
4. Why should the Catholic press in this country be in a position to be particularly effective in ennunciating the principles of international cooperation and peace?
5. Discuss the three factors or conditions upon which the full role of our press in the promotion of just peace depends?

SUGGESTED READINGS

Principles for Peace, Bruce Publishing Co., Milwaukee, Wis. 1943. $7.50.

Peace Agenda for the United Nations, C. A. I. P., Washington, D. C. 1943. 10c.

Statement on Minimum Requirements for a Just Peace, N. C. W. C., Washington, D. C., $1.25 per hundred.

Transition from War to Peace, C. A. I. P., Washington, D. C. 10c.

The Pope's Peace Program and the U. S., N. C. W. C., Washington, D. C. 10c.

ERRATUM

It is regretted that in commenting on the Centenary Celebration of the Diocese of Pittsburgh in the November issue of CATHOLIC ACTION an error was made in referring to the celebration as a "golden jubilee" instead of a "centenary celebration."

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